

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SECTO 13001 220354Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 220305Z SEP 75 ZFF-4

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T SECTO 13001

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR BREWER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SU, ET

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR SUDANESE ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING RE-
LEASE OF CISCO II AND KAGNEW II

1. DEPT HAS DECIDED, SUBJECT TO YOUR VIEWS, TO REQUEST
SUDANESE ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING RELEASE OF FOUR AMERICANS
NOW IN PLF HANDS. UNLESS YOU BELIEVE UNWISE, YOU SHOULD
SEEK AN APPOINTMENT AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF GOS AND MAKE
FOLLOWING POINTS ONLY:

A) WE HAVE BEEN MOST APPRECIATIVE OF EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE
WHICH GOS PROVIDED IN SECURING RELEASE OF TENNECO HOSTAGES
AND IN OBTAINING INFO RE WHEREABOUTS OF CISCO II.

B) USG HAD BEEN HOPEFUL UNTIL RECENTLY THAT THE PLF WOULD
HONOR ITS COMMITMENT TO RELEASE UNCONDITIONALLY THE CISCO
II. FOLLOWING THE KIDNAPPING ON SEPTEMBER 12 OF THE TWO
ADDITIONAL AMERICANS AND SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC DEMANDS THAT THE
US DISENGAGE FROM ETHIOPIA, IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT THE
PLF DOES NOT INTEND TO RELEASE AMERICANS AS EARLIER INDI-

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PAGE 02 SECTO 13001 220354Z

CATED.

C) IN VIEW OF DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.S. AND SUDAN, AND GIVEN THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH SUDAN HAS DEVELOPED WITH THE ERITREAN REBELS IN THE COURSE OF CONTINUING GOS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE ERITREAN DISPUTE, WE BELIEVE THAT GOS IS IN EXCELLENT POSITION TO BE OF SPECIAL HELP IN CONVINCING ELF/PLF TO RELEASE FOUR AMERICAN CAPTIVES PROMPTLY AND WITHOUT CONDITION.

D) WHILE SUDANESE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE OWN IDEAS ON HOW BEST TO APPROACH ELF/PLF, YOU MAY WISH SUGGEST THAT THEY EXPRESS VIEW THAT ERITREANS ARE NOT PROCEEDING IN BEST WAY TO FURTHER OWN INTERESTS. IF THEY WANT FAVORABLE INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY FOR THEIR CAUSE, KIDNAPPING ACTION IS CERTAINLY NOT THE WAY TO OBTAIN IT.

E) YOU MAY INFORM GOS THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GOS EFFORTS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE.

F) ADDITIONALLY, YOU MAY INDICATE DISCREETLY TO GOS THAT A SUCCESS ON THEIR PART IN OBTAINING RELEASE OF AMERICANS IS BOUND TO BE REGARDED IN WASHINGTON AS AN INDICATION OF SUDANESE GOOD WILL TOWARD THE U.S. AND ONE WHICH COULD IMPROVE SUDANESE IMAGE AMONG THOSE AMERICANS WHO RETAIN SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP AS CONSEQUENCE RELEASE OF NOEL-MOORE ASSASSINS. YOU SHOULD, OF COURSE, AVOID MAKING ANY SPECIFIC PROMISES THAT A SUCCESSFUL RELEASE OF THE FOUR DETAINEES WILL AUTOMATICALLY LEAD TO FULL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS OR THE IMMEDIATE RENEWAL OF USG ECONOMIC OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

2. IN THE COURSE OF YOUR PRESENTATION YOU SHOULD

SPECIFICALLY EMPHASIZE OUR CONTINUING AND FIRM POLICY NOT TO SUBMIT TO BLACKMAIL, ACCEDE TO TERRORIST DEMANDS OR OTHERWISE NEGOTIATE ON THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECTO, KIDNAPPING, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SECTO13001
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750327-0582
From: SECRETARY IN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750929/aaaaazt.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR SUDANESE ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING RE- LEASE OF CISCO II AND KAGNEW II
TAGS: PINT, PINS, CASC, SU, ET, US
To: KHARTOUM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006